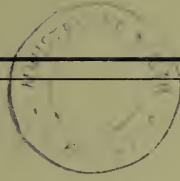


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FOWEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

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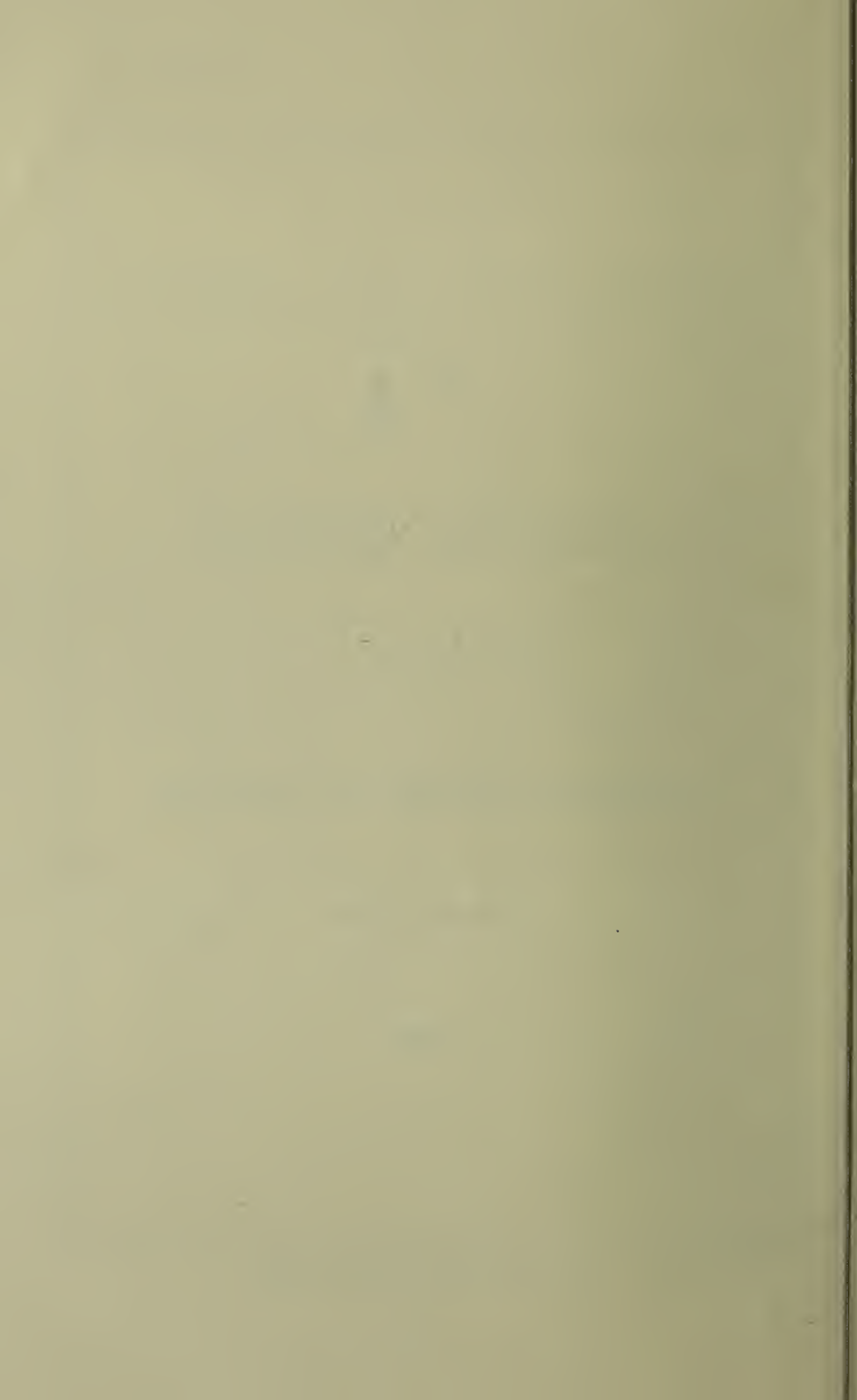
# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1963



To:-

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE BOROUGH OF FOWEY.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough of Fowey for the year ended 31st December, 1963.

Fowey is a port engaged in the export of China Clay, and capable of handling large vessels. The town is a well known holiday resort, which attracts an ever growing number of visitors. The attractions are many viz. the Town itself which has an individual character typically Cornish, the surrounding coastal scenery with its constantly changing views, and the gentle climate. The mild winter weather proves a comfort for the many people who retire to the town and surroundings.

A very great increase in the population during the holiday season brings its own problems, especially with regard to sewage disposal. The strain on the sewage system is greatly magnified and as your Surveyor rightly points out, each year makes the problem more difficult. Fortunately, the water system presents few problems, the town receiving an ample and pure supply through the Fowey River Scheme.

The figures for the births and deaths are perforce small and therefore cannot display accurate rates, but it is pleasing to mention that there were no stillbirths or infant deaths during 1963. The general death rate was similar to the rate for England and Wales.

1963 was a quiet year for infectious disease, measles being the only infection notified. It is pleasing to note that diseases associated with food and food handling were absent, this being due in large measure to the vigilance of the Public Health Inspector. Continual vigilance is required, especially when the population has so greatly increased.

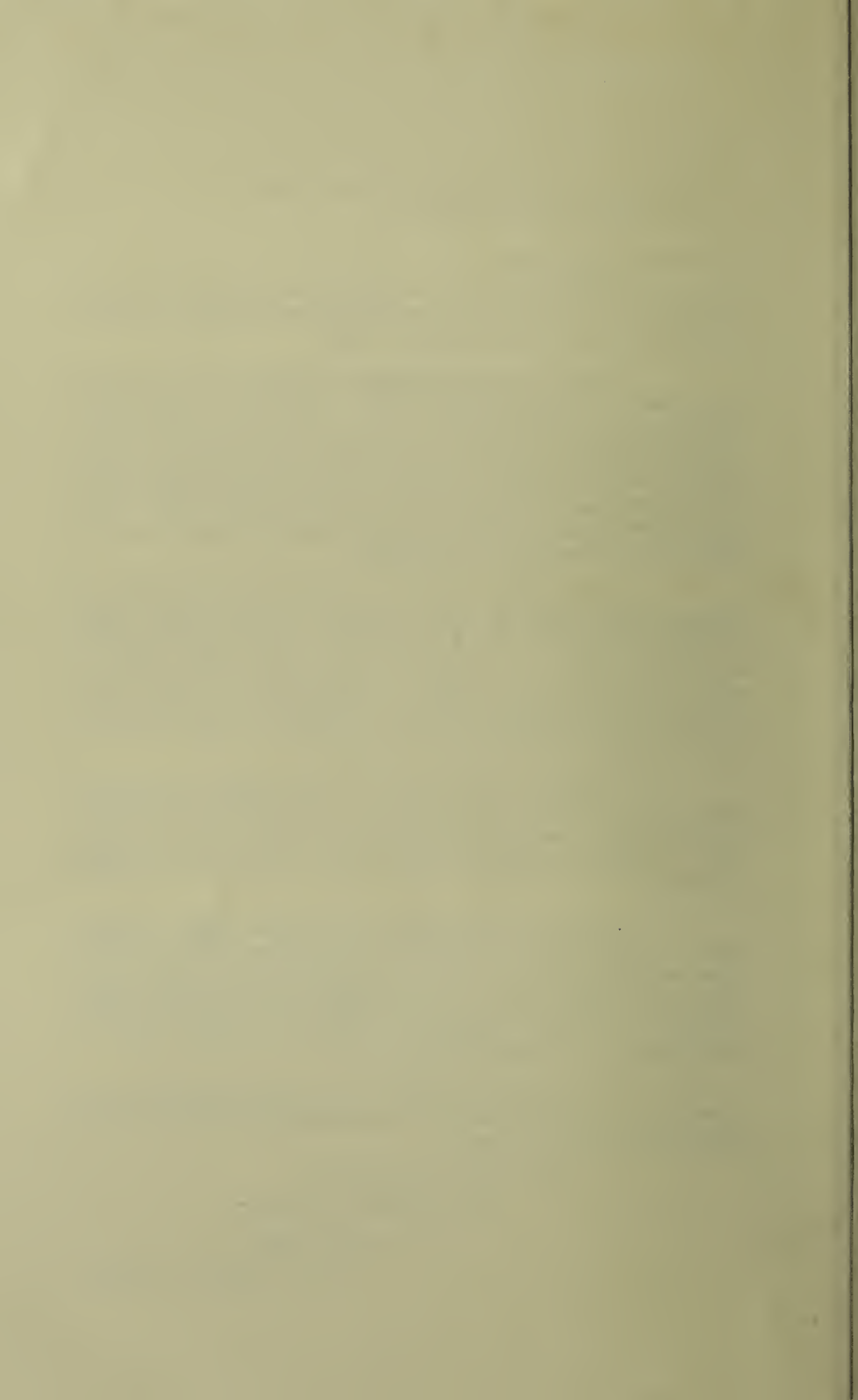
I am indebted to Mr. Birkett, not only for his contribution to this Report, but to his co-operation in all matters of Health throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MCGOVERN,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	...	...	2,979
Population (mid year)	...	...	2,130
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	1,050
Rateable Value	...	...	£34,768
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	£299-12-5

Live Births	Male	Female	Total	Rate/1000 Population Fowey	England & Wales
Legitimate	14	9	25	11.74	
Illegitimate	2				

Rate corrected for comparison

with other areas      15      18.2

Illegitimate births % of total live births 8%      6.29

Still Births			Rate/1000 live and still births
Legitimate	0	0	17.2
Illegitimate	0	0	

**Total Live and Still Births**    25

### Infant Deaths

Legitimate	0	0	0
Illegitimate	0	0	0

Rate per 1000 total live births      0      21.1

„ „ „ legitimate      0

„ „ „ illegitimate      0

### Neo-natal Deaths

				Rate/1000 Live Births
Under 4 weeks	0	0	0	14.2

### Early neo-natal deaths

Under 1 week	0	0	0	12.2
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**Peri-natal deaths** Rate/1000 Live and Still Births

Still births and deaths under 1 week

0      0      0      0      29.3

**Maternal Deaths**    0      0      0      0.0      0.28

**Deaths (all ages and causes)** Rate 1000 Population

15      21      36      16.9

Corrected for comparison with other areas

12.3      12.2

The following table gives the numbers dying in age groups

Age Group	Numbers ;	Males	Females
1 - 5	...	0	0
5 - 15	...	0	0
15 - 25	...	1	0
25 - 35	...	0	0
35 - 45	...	0	0
45 - 55	...	1	4
55 - 65	...	2	3
65 - 75	...	4	4
75 +	..	7	10
		<hr/> 15	<hr/> 21

**Infant Mortality**

Causes of Death in Infants under 1 year - Nil

The following is a list of the causes of death :

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	0	0	0
2.       "       other	0	0	0
3. Syphilitic disease ...	0	0	0
4. Diphtheria ...	0	0	0
5. Whooping cough ...	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal infections ...	0	0	0
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	0	0	0
8. Measles ...	0	0	0
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	0	1	1
11.       "       "       lung, bronchus	0	1	1
12.       "       "       breast	0	1	1
13.       "       "       uterus	0	2	2
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	0	3	3
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	0	0	0
16. Diabetes ...	0	0	0
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	2	5
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	3	4	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	0	1
20. Other heart disease...	1	3	4
21. Other circulatory diseases ...	0	0	0
22. Influenza ...	0	0	0
23. Pneumonia ...	1	0	1
24. Bronchitis ...	0	1	1
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	0	0	0
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0	0
28. Nephritis, and nephrosis ...	0	0	0
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	0	0	0
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
31. Congenital malformations ...	0	0	0
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	3	6
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	0	0	0
34. All other accidents ...	2	0	2
35. Suicide ...	0	0	0
36. Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
All causes :	15	21	36

## SECTION A.

**Area (2,979 acres)** The district consists of the estuarine Town of Fowey, the Hamlets of Newtown, Polkerris and Polmear, and a large rural background.

**Population.** The Registrar General's population figure for 1963 was 2,130. The temporary Summer population is estimated to add another 3,000.

### Meteorological Data.

Total rainfall for year	...	33.16 inches.
Average rainfall for year	...	36.74 inches.
Average temperature	...	50° F.

## SECTION B

### Public Health Officers

(a) Medical Officer of Health: J. MCGOVERN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Tel. St. Austell 2206

Area Health Office,

Moorland Road, St. Austell.

(b) Public Health Inspector (part time): A. J. BIRKETT, M.R.S.I.

### Laboratory Facilities

All investigations are carried out at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, where material is sent for investigation.

### Prophylaxis of Infectious Disease

In addition to the usual diphtheria prophylactics, supplies of whooping cough vaccine and of tetanus toxoid are available in various combinations and can be obtained by Medical Practitioners at the Area Office, St. Austell. Oral Poliomyelitis vaccine is now available in quantity.

### Nursing in the home

There is one District Nurse - Midwife - Health Visitor for the area.

### Domestic Help Service

This service is of particular help to the aged.

### Maternity and Child Welfare

All mothers and children are visited in their homes by the Nurse. Expectant mothers attend the Clinic in St. Austell. There is Child Welfare Clinic at Par, 2nd and 4th Tuesday in each month. 2 - 4 p.m.



## Hospitals

The Town has a small 13 bedded hospital. Patients requiring specialised treatment go to the Royal Cornwall Infirmary in Truro, or to Redruth.

## Clinics

Practically all the special clinics are held in St. Austell, either at the hospital or at Moorland Road.

## SECTION C.

### Water

The whole Borough is supplied directly from the Fowey River Scheme, with the exception of Polkerris village which has a private supply, and several properties in the Menabilly area.

Following the extensive frost in the winter of 1962/63 a great amount of water was lost through leakage. At the end of the year the majority of leaks had been traced and repaired, but consumption was still very high and further main leaks were suspected.

The water is not plumbo-solvent, and has proved satisfactory both in quality and quantity. All samples taken proved satisfactory.

Samples taken:	By Fowey Borough Council	22
	By Fowey River Scheme	<u>50</u>
		<u>72</u>

Number of dwelling houses supplied from public water mains		
	Direct 980	Standpipes 7
Number of population supplied	2,000	15

### Drainage.

As reported in previous years all outfall sewers drain to the beaches, where they discharge without treatment. No major works have been carried out. As previously reported a satisfactory sewer system for Fowey becomes increasingly urgent, and a tentative scheme for the re-alignment of sewers in the higher parts of the town, served to discharge into the Readymoney Valley was considered by our Council.

**Disinfections** Nil.

**Rodent Control.** No major infestations reported. All complaints have been dealt with, and sewers regularly treated.

### Conveniences.

Public conveniences within the Borough - 8 ladies  
8 gents

## SECTION D. HOUSING

### New Houses

5 new houses were completed during the year and 11 houses were under construction at the end of the year.

### Repairs and Re-conditioning

11 standard grants were authorised during the year, and private reconditioning etc., continued throughout the period.

## SECTION E.

### Ice Cream

There are 25 retailers, but no manufacturers within the Borough.

### Food Premises

35 visits of inspection were made to registered food premises. No complaints were received from the general public.

### Condemned Foodstuffs

76 lbs. of canned and fresh meats and 48 lbs. other foodstuff were condemned during the year as unfit for human consumption.

## SECTION F

### Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other diseases.

Diseases Notified during 1963

Measles	...	...	3
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	...	...	-

**Smallpox Vaccination.** During the year there were 9 primary vaccinations, and 10 re-vaccinations.

6 of these were under 1 year of age.

### Diphtheria Immunisation

The following table gives the number of immunisations carried out during the year.

Children born during the year:

	1963	62	61	60	59	58-54	53-49	Total
Primary immunisation	9	26	4	-	-	5	4	48
Reinforcing injections						32	18	50

**Tuberculosis** The total number of cases on the register at 31st December 1963 was as follows:- (the figures in brackets are those for 1962)

		Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	...	9 (9)	7 (7)	16 (16)
Non-pulmonary	...	1 (1)	3 (3)	4 (4)

**Poliomyelitis Vaccination.**

Oral vaccine has now replaced the salt vaccine. Ample supplies are available.

**Tuberculosis Prevention**

For several years the Cornwall County Council has offered protection to school leavers against tuberculosis by means of B.C.G. vaccination. The vaccine is offered to those children who have not been given protective vaccine already, or who have not had some tuberculosis infection - this being demonstrated by a skin test.

In 1963 the scheme was extended to take in the 11 and 12 year age groups. A total of 1319 children were tested and 931 received vaccination. These figures are for the whole of Health Area IV, since the school population of Fowey Borough and the Urban District is not confined to the district only, but as in the case of Fowey includes children from the surrounding districts.

**FACTORIES ACT 1937 and 1948.**

**I. Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including visits made by the Public Health Inspector)

PREMISES	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices Occupiers prosecuted
I. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	3	8	—
II. Factories not included in (I) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	10	10	—
TOTAL	13	18	—

**2. Cases in which defects were found.** NIL.

